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No 7

Extract of a letter from Lieut. Zd Pike, to Governor Wm Harrison
Dated 28th June 1806

I have observed by a Letter and Deposition of Capt. Daniel Biſsell, that Mr S. Harrison wrote you a letter, complaining of me; and aſserting that I had basely treated him (in conjunction with Captain Biſsell) by taking a House from him in his absence.

This circumstance is fully explained by Capt. Daniel Biſsells Deposition, and I should never have conceived his letter as worthy my further notice. But allow me to say that, the nature of your Notes on that letter were such, as wounded my feelings; and more deeply as they came from a Character, whom I had always been induced (as well from duty as inclination) to respect and esteem. Your [illegible] "He ought to have looked to Parkinson for, [illegible] "to have made use of the Arms of the United States; "which was put under his direction for different purposes: "to diſpoſseſs the person who has obtained a legal poſseſsion." It would be difficult to shew, wherein any paſsage of S. Harrisons letter, (even admitting it strictly true) would justify the foregoing conclusion, of my having taken poſseſsion by force of Arms. And, when we refer to Capt. Biſsells Deposition, we will perceive, that I obtained a peaceable and legal poſseſsion of property, which I had been some years illegally deprived of. It is unneceſsary for me to attempt to be the panegyrist of Capt. Biſsells Character; but I presume that no person can for one minute doubt his having acted with no impropriety in this affair; and, that the insinuations of Mr S. Harrison, was as unfounded & groundleſs, as many others raised by the Scoundrels who reside in the vicinity of Maſsac. —

— As the before mentioned Documents were handed to my Colonel, I should be happy if Governor Harrison felt himself at liberty, to honor me with a line, expreſsing his satisfaction of the foregoing explanation —

Daniel Bissell Esqr.
Commandg
Fort Massac

Z. Pike's,
11th of
June 1806 - rec
the 17th July —

Recd 18th July 1806